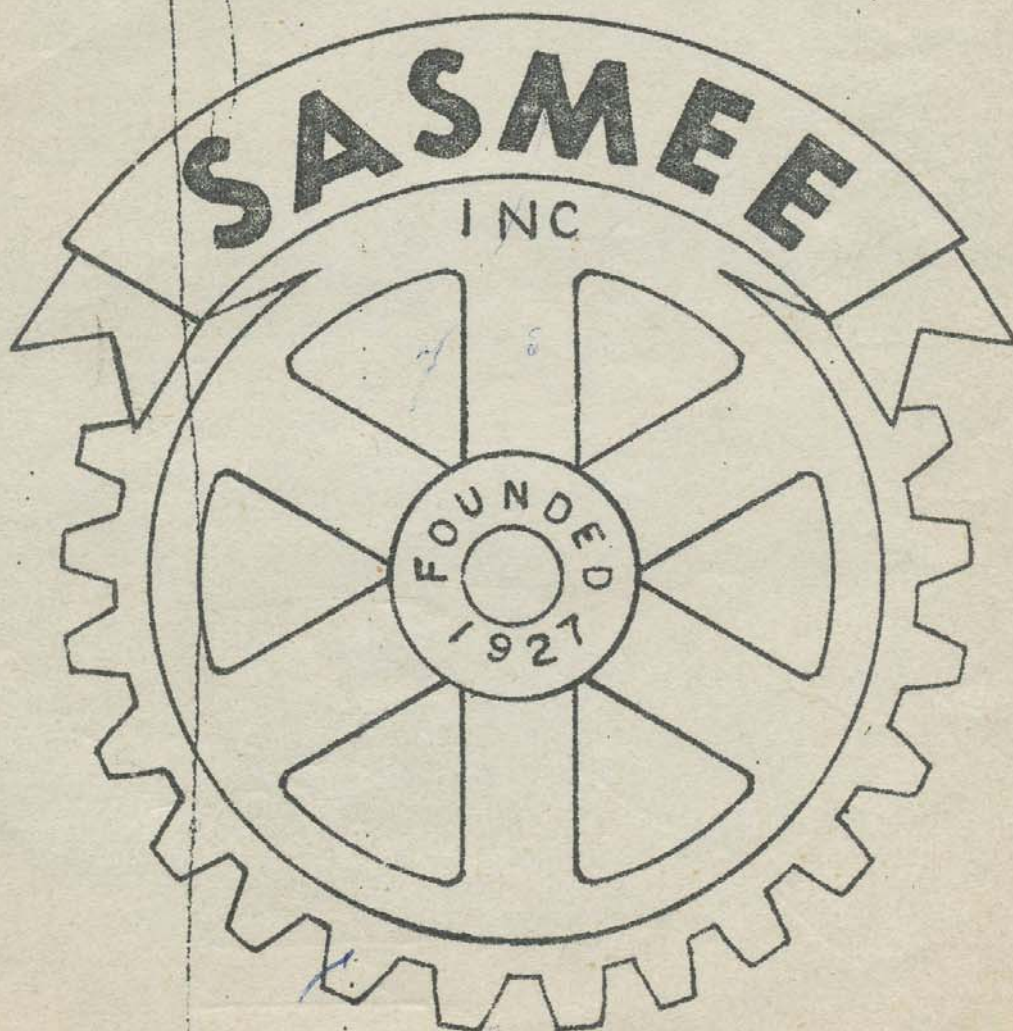


# S A S M E E

*Not May 74*

# BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY  
OF MODEL AND EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERS.





Vol 15 No 4

Mar.-May 1974

S.A.S.M.E.E. BULLETIN

Once again it is my sad duty to record the passing of another of SASMEE Life Members. Max Dunkley, perhaps better known to the older members, saw your Society grow from small beginnings to that of its position in the Australian Modelling world of today. He played a leading part in its early struggles and was a tower of strength at both working parties and in the actual field of modelling and Loco Construction. With a breakdown in health several years ago Max retired from active participation in Club affairs, but was content to watch from the sidelines. Further on our friend Uncle Al. pays a tribute to Max.

The recent passing away of another member, Dick Searle creates a gap in our ranks. Dick joined the Society in 1968, and although not taking a very active part in management, was always present at meetings and Field Days. Quietly spoken, his opinions were always respected and he was a well liked member. He had constructed 3½" 'Firefly' but his death prevented giving it the final touches.

To the families of both of these men SASMEE Members offer their deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

By the time you receive this Bulletin the Easter Convention will be only a little over eight weeks away. Invitation forms are available from the Secretary and should reach the host Society no later than April 1st 1974. A list of Hotels, Motels and Caravan Parks is displayed on the Club Notice Board, and bookings are advised early. An innovation this year will be the holding of an Efficiency Trial. This will be conducted on Sunday April 14th between the hours of 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The track will be reserved for this purpose during those hours. Several trips have been arranged for the same afternoon for those desirous of making same.



PAGE 2:

1974 promises to be a busy year for members for apart from our twice a year benefit Field Days, we propose holding two extra Field Days as an extra fund raising project keeping the 1977 Convention in mind.

SASMEE has been recently advised of the formation of another Steam Locomotive Society in Adelaide. The official title is: Adelaide Miniature Steam Railway Society, M, Sambell is President. Their aim is to further the interest in 5" gauge ground level operation and negotiations are in hand for a suitable site in the Prospect area. I believe that a considerable length of track has been constructed but not yet laid. The letter advising of the Society's formation states there is no question of opposition to SASMEE but hopes that each Society will be complimentary to the other and this sentiment SASMEE heartily endorses.

Regrettably this year has opened on a sad note but as everybody is mortal we must endeavour to forget the sorrows that life showers upon us and make the best of the good things that this earth has been endowed with, one of them being 'Modelling'. So let us go forward into 1974 with our motto "Good Steaming" not only in our locos but in our dealings with everybody we come in contact with.

Clary Burden

Editor & Hon. Secretary

QUARTERLY AGENDA

GENERAL MEETING: 2nd Tuesday each month at 8 p.m.

MARCH 12TH: Fred Hercus will screen locos of other countries on film.

APRIL 9TH: Mr. Harold Clisby will speak on his recent trip to the U.S.A. and show films and slides

MAY 14TH: Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers.

INTERMEDIATE MEETINGS: (Informal) 4th Tuesday each month at 8 p.m.  
March 26th, April 23rd, May 28th.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 1st Tuesday each month at 8 p.m. - March 5th, April 2nd, May 4th.

WORKING BEES: 1st Saturday each month at 2 p.m. - March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th.

PUBLIC FIELD DAYS: 3rd Saturday each month at 2 p.m.  
March 16th, April 20th, May 18th.

PLEASE CHECK WITH ROSTER FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE ON CANTEEN

LOCO TRACK SUPERVISORS:

B. Brown

D. Irving

L. Fielder



1 March 31 Sunday full ring  
March - May 1974  
FIELD DAY CANTEEN ROSTER

Page 4:

|                          |                            |                                          |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <u>MARCH</u>             | <u>APRIL</u>               | <u>MAY</u>                               |
| A.L. Broad<br>B. Niesche | P.B. Cooper<br>F.J. Morcom | <del>A.R. Goldsmith</del><br>W. Bradford |

IMPORTANT NOTICE

IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AS PER ROSTER PLEASE  
 PHONE SECRETARY PH.795292 SO THAT A  
 RESERVE CAN BE NOTIFIED IN TIME.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THE MILK

ROSTER FOR LOCKING UP ALL BUILDINGS AND GATES

|               |             |           |             |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| FEBRUARY 16TH | R. BROWN    | APRIL 6TH | D. PRICE    |
| 23RD          | D. ALLEN    | 13TH      | R. SMYTHE   |
| MARCH 2ND     | W. BRADFORD | 20TH      | R. BROWN    |
| 9TH           | I. CLARK    | 27TH      | D. ALLEN    |
| 16TH          | D. IRVING   |           |             |
| 23RD          | P. GRISCTI  | MAY 4TH   | W. BRADFORD |
| 30TH          | J. WELSH    | 11TH      | I. CLARK    |

S.A.S.M.E.E. NEWS

To those of us who saw and spoke to her, it was a pleasure to see Mrs. Paul Griscti, our President's wife at our Park on a recent afternoon. She is recovering from a severe illness and we all wish her a speedy recovery and return to good health.

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I have recently received a lengthy and interesting letter from Ken Middleton of Singapore. Ken was transferred from Adelaide to Singapore several years ago. He was and still is a keen modeller when his duties permit, and whilst here was a very enthusiastic member. He has retained membership in SASMEE as a Country Member so therefore it was a double pleasure to hear from him. I have passed his letter around to a number of members and it is still available if you wish to read it.

Also I have had several letters from our wandering member John Wakefield. He describes the various railways of the countries he has visited. By the time you receive this Bulletin I expect he will have returned home, so I will leave it to him to speak of his experiences and look forward to viewing his slides and film.

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Over the Christmas period we had a visitor from the Wollongong N.S.W. area. David Merrifield and his family spent several weeks in Adelaide and it was our pleasure to show him SASMEE and visits to various members homes. Dave is Secretary of South Coast Model Engineering Society and they operate a ground level track in, I believe, 3½" and 5" gauge.

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Our Annual Christmas Barbecue and family get together took place after the December field day running had ceased. I have the impression that the attendance was greater than it has been for several years. Perhaps owing to the fact that there was a slightly greater gap between December 15th and Christmas Day may have accounted for this. After tea Alan Frankham delighted young and old with the antics of "Archie". Archie never seems to lose his appeal to the children and we are indeed indebted to "Uncle Al" for making this one day in the year such a pleasant one

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In the last Bulletin mention was made of Bertie Wood of Croydon, and old member, who was reported to be 74 years old. Alan Frankham wishes to correct this as Bertie is 84 years "young" and going strong. Mrs. Wood continues to look after him in splendid style.

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At the time of writing David Price was in the Elizabeth Hospital and we all wish him a speedy recovery and a return to his duties of Minute Secretary.

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Newsletters and Bulletins have been received from the following Societies. These are regularly posted on the Notice Board and you are invited to read them:

Steam Locomotive Society of Victoria  
Victorian Miniature Steam Locomotive Society,  
Western Districts Live Steamers,  
Rand Society of Model Engineers, South Africa  
Melbourne Steam Traction Engine Club,  
Castledare Miniature Railway,  
Sydney Live Steam Locomotive Society.

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ANNUAL SHOW OF WORK  
HELD AT NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

Despite the lateness in the year the number of exhibits was rather disappointing but to offset this, the quality of workmanship was very high. Probably the most eye catching was Brian Niesche's Riley "Kestrel" Saloon Car. It is of course not to be classed as modelling but nevertheless Brian is to be congratulated upon a really lovely piece of craftsmanship.

Turning to the other exhibits my vote goes to Dave Worrell with his exhibit of a Stationary Engine and Boiler. This is a most outstanding piece of work and great credit is due to the builder. A 5" gauge "Princess Royal" chassis by John Barkes was another eye catching piece of work and when completed will add a real touch of splendour to our Stable of Locos.

Here is a list of exhibits -

Vertical Steam Engine  $\frac{1}{2}$ " bore  $\frac{1}{2}$ " stroke by David Atkinson  
Smithies Boiler and traction engine parts and lathe accessories by David Brown.

Alchin Traction engine hub cap and front spring of Foden Steam truck - by Paul Griscti.

Etching machine by D.W. Collings.

Simplex 5" gauge 0-6-0 Chassis by David Price

2 phase steam turbo alternator by Bob Smyth.

Stationary engine and boiler - by Dave Worrell

Princess Royal in 5" gauge by John Barkes

Rebuilt  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " gauge Juliet by Len Peckham

1936 Riley "Kestrel" saloon by Brian Niesche

I sincerely hope that I have mentioned everybody exhibiting and apologise for any omissions.

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A FIELD DAY TO AID THE PICH RICH RAILWAY RESTORATION SOCIETY.

November 24th was set aside as a special day to aid the above Society in their fund raising to restore the old Pichi-Richi railway as a tourist attraction for visitors to the Flinders Ranges. After a brief explanation of the Society's



aims by one or two dignitaries passenger carrying was resumed and a useful sized crowd of people enjoyed the sights and sounds and the smell of hot oil steam and smoke.

The steam house boys were kept busy with their old time steam plant and the boat pond presented its usual array of various types of water craft. A letter has been received from the Society thanking SASMEE Members for their assistance in helping to raise a useful sum of money and arousing the interest of people in Adelaide in their efforts of preserving a piece of our history.

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### COMING EVENTS

Apart from the usual monthly track days we have 2 days set apart for charitable fund raising and another 2 days to raise funds for our own purposes. These days are as follows :

|                        |   |                    |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Sunday March 31st      | - | for SASMEE         |
| Saturday May 4th       | - | for Renal Dialysis |
| Sunday 29th September  | - | for SASMEE         |
| Saturday 30th November | - | for Spina Bifida   |

Members are asked to keep these dates clear in order to make the respective affairs a success.

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The coming Convention to be held this year at Moorabbin is now only a matter of a few weeks away and your attention is drawn to the fact that admission to this function will be only by invitation forms for this purpose, obtainable from your Secretary and must be lodged with the host Society by April 1st. There is also a list of hotels, motels, and caravan parks on rear of the invitation form. To those members taking a loco you are reminded that a current boiler certificate must be produced. Various other attractions have been mentioned in the Editorial.

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### TRACKSIDE CHATTER

Keith Bradford's R38 (?) (have I got it correctly) was noticed at the January Field Day doing a mighty job. Hauling four loaded riding trucks and taking the grade in fine style, this loco presented a fascinating picture and aroused a feeling of nostalgia for a fast fading era.

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At the same meeting a crew from Channel 2 spent an hour or so filming various aspects of SASMEE attractions. It will be televised early in July of this year as part of an educational film. I have been promised advice later as to the hour and date of viewing.

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Len Peckham's 'Juliet' after a re-boiler job is still going like a rocket. On past occasions over the years I have watched Len doing some really hair raising speeds with this mighty midget and size for size compares more than favourably with some of its bigger brothers.

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Norm. and his brother enthusiasts make their unfailing appearance at every track day with speed boats, launches, paddle boats and numerous other types of craft and we are surely indebted to them for the grand show they put on.

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The two Davids and Mark and Horrie in the steam house, have probably the hottest job of all keeping the old time models ticking over. Their reward is the interest taken by the public who are fascinated by the motion of these old time producers of power.

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To those members behind the scenes mention must surely be made. I refer to our gatekeepers and those who man the canteen. Without their help we would be like a loco with a dead fire. All set to go, but just lacking the vital spark which makes the difference between success or failure. Another aspect of our manpower at track days are those who cheerfully man the station, keep control over a large number of children, and those who crack coal. Another name for these jobs is "Team Work" and without it we would not function smoothly.

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Under the direction of Mike Carmody a successful burn-off was carried out recently. With a band of helpers, Mike who is a member of the E.F.S., cleaned up the northern end of the grounds and along that area adjoining the Brighton train line. We can now look forward to a season of trouble free running insofar as fire is concerned.

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Julian Hamilton, s Student Member, is a regular attendant at track days and is displaying a keen interest in loco handling and operation.

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Another enthusiastic Student member is Peter Gore. Peter is quite a competent driver and can be seen regularly driving for a few laps just prior to passenger carrying starting.

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A member we do not see very much of, Dr. Martin Laird, was present at January track day. I did not get the opportunity to speak to him and wondered how he is progressing with "Virginia" which I understand he is building.



PAGE 11:

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

A warm welcome is extended to the following recently elected members -

Karl James Gramp - Interested in Locos

Brad J. Cottle - a Junior member - also interested in Locos

William James Holdsworth - Interested in Traction engines

By joining in with our various activities you will make new friends and gain a valuable insight into modelling in its many aspects.

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The Late Mac Dunkley - by Alan Frankham

On 31st December 1973 Mac passed away at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and SASMEE lost a good and faithful member.

Mac was a member for over 30 years and played his part when SASMEE was under construction. Every Saturday Mac would get off the train at Goodwood, after working on Saturday morning, and would put the rest of the day in at SASMEE. This was his program for some years. In the workshop Mac constructed a Beam engine gold medal, a tug boat, gold medal, table engine, silver medal, workshop machinery, silver medal, and later a racing car when we had the car track; also two locos - Juliet which he named Robyn and a 5" gauge Springbok. Neil Campbell of N.S.W. is now the owner of the Springbok and members will agree that he is a very worthy member of the model engineers fraternity to have this loco, it is in good hands.

Mac was always willing to help a modeller who had struck bother with his project and I remember when I mucked a job up and went to see Mac about it he not only loaned me the correct tools but gave me another piece of bronze to turn up the part, this was common for Mac always willing to help the other bloke.



I last saw him on Christmas Day after I had Christmas dinner at my daughter's place and I was upset to see his condition, if I had seen him before dinner I doubt whether I would have eaten much. Mac was transferred to Adelaide Hospital from the home where he was and while in hospital suffered another stroke, this time he didn't come out of it.

So the curtain falls on yet another of our club mates who we all agree was an asset to model engineering in general and to SASMEE in particular.

He will be missed but not forgotten.

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